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GROUP 2300

65(Twice Amended). In a microprocessor integrated circuit, a method for clocking the microprocessor within the integrated circuit, comprising the steps of:

· providing a ring oscillator system clock [having a plurality] constructed of [transistors] electronic devices within the integrated circuit, said [plurality of transistors] electronic devices having operating characteristics [disposed to] which will, because said ring oscillator system clock and said microprocessor are located within the same integrated circuit, vary [similarly to] together with operating characteristics of [transistors] electronic devices included within the microprocessor, and

using the ring oscillator system clock for clocking the microprocessor, said [central processing unit] microprocessor operating at a variable processing frequency dependent upon a variable speed of said ring oscillator system clock.

73(Amended). A microprocessor system comprising:

a central processing unit disposed upon [a] an integrated circuit substrate, said central processing unit operating at a processing frequency and [including] constructed of a first plurality of [transistors] electronic devices;

an oscillator disposed upon said integrated circuit substrate and connected to said central processing unit, said oscillator clocking said central processing unit at a clock rate and including a second plurality of [transistors] electronic devices, thus varying the [designed such that] operating characteristics of said first plurality and said second plurality of transistors [vary] in the same way as a function of parameter variation in one or more fabrication or operational parameters associated with said integrated circuit substrate, thereby enabling said processing frequency to track said clock rate in response to said parameter variation.